

REMARKS

The office action of July 9, 2008, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the specification is objected to for containing various informalities.

Claims 1-29 are objected to for containing various informalities.

Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Cook.

Claims 8 and 11-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Cook.

In connection with the Examiner's objection to the specification, applicant has amended the specification to address the informalities pointed out by the Examiner.

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In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the specification is overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended claims 1-29.

Applicant has amended the claims to delete the reference numerals. With this change it is respectfully submitted that the objection to claims 1-29 is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness pointed out by the Examiner.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on

file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, Cook was discussed at some length in the last filed amendment and those comments are incorporated herein by reference. The following additional arguments are presented.

The comb disclosed by Cook has axial teeth, not radial teeth as in the presently claimed invention. Furthermore, the comb of Cook serves as a barrier to turning of the cylinder core when an incorrect key is used. The tumblers do not extend, in any position, beyond the external tumblers of the cylinder core.

The comb of Cook is spring loaded. When the cylinder housing is removed the comb does not serve to securely hold the tumblers in the cylinder core so that they are not lost.

The elements the Examiner indicated from Fig. 4 of Cook as being flanks, do not function as a contact that is need for theft prevention. Additionally, the elements indicated by the Examiner as flanks and counter flanks are continually and completely in contact with each other. This is contrary to the presently

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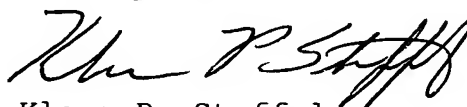
claimed invention. Therefore, Cook does not disclose the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations, as well as those of the last filed amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and the rejection of claims 8 and 11-29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the above-discussed reference are overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 9, 2008.

By: 
Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: October 9, 2008